

Submitted comments to date on the 3rd experiment being conducted on Casper Creek by Dr. Salli Dymond

1. As Dr. Dymond noted, baseline conditions within each sub-watershed are different. If possible, it would be helpful if the studies attempt to quantify whether these are very large or small differences between sub-watersheds so reviewers can better understand the potential influence on future results.
2. Within Project #4, the project goal will try to determine the effects of contemporary forest practices on macroinvertebrate assemblages. I could see how SWAMP would be the response variable measuring changes in macroinvertebrate assemblages, achieve a portion of the goal, and also achieve the EMC Theme 1, Critical Question (e). However, the stated objective appears to be testing SWAMP itself? If so, it would be helpful to better understand how SWAMP is going to be tested.
3. One important consideration in several EMC Themes is attempting to measure effectiveness of FPRs during rare or large events (EMC Strategic Plan Section 4.2.2). It would be helpful if the projects can include this concept, so if a rare or large event occurs, the potential effects from such events can be measured. As an example, it would be helpful to know in Project #8 which potential erosional consequences of legacy road rehabilitation are due to chronic events , episodic rare or large events, or both?
4. Several EMC critical questions are associated with watercourse canopy closure and associated water temperatures (Theme 1, Critical Questions (a), (b) and (d). I would encourage pursuit of a water temperature project as part of the studies.